

My name is Angela Smith. I am a resident of San Tan Valley and I am writing in support of the Florence Copper project.

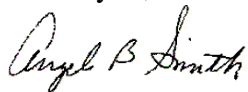
Like every one that has written letters or attended meetings about the Florence Copper project, I care about my family and our community. If I didn't believe that the Florence Copper project was safe, I'd do whatever it took to put an end to it.

After researching all I could find out about the project, I have no doubt it is safe. The Production Test Facility is designed to demonstrate that it's safe before any further commercial production takes place. The majority of us here in the community appreciate the time and effort the EPA took when considering this permit.

And we ask you to please finalize this permit as quickly as possible. The benefits from this project will impact this community greatly. As the former Executive Director of the San Tan Valley Chamber of Commerce and a small business owner myself, I work with small business owners all the time who are good, hardworking people. But they struggle. A project like this, that has the potential to create 500 high paying jobs for the area, not to mention the impact it will have on all the businesses in the community from restaurants, gas stations, convenience stores and others, will transform San Tan Valley, Florence, Coolidge and our surrounding areas for the better. Sure, we love the historic towns of Florence and Coolidge but our young people leave to raise their families elsewhere because there's nothing here for them. And our residents have to seek head of household jobs outside of our area, spending a large part of their money in other communities.

There are a lot of people who are afraid of the project and if I only listened to one side I might feel the same way. I'd encourage them to do their own research like I did. And I expect the EPA to continue doing its job making sure Florence Copper does everything right.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela B. Smith".

Angela Smith, Owner
Keep It Local Arizona